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No. XVI.

*Notice of an Anatomical Peculiarity observed in the Structure of the Condor of the Andes; (Vultur gryphus, Linn.)*  
By R. Harlan, M.D. Read April 3d, 1829.

**D**URING the past year, two fine specimens, male and female, of the Condor from Peru, died in this city. I caused their skins to be prepared, and they now constitute a valuable addition to the cabinet of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

On dissection the stomach presented a peculiarity of organization, which appears to be characteristic of this species.

The crop or ingluvies is very large, and was in this instance filled with macerated raw meat. The stomach, which was nearly empty (with the exception of some thick pieces of glass, stone coal, gravel, &c.) is oblong in form; the cardiac portion being marked with longitudinal folds: the middle portion displays two oval protuberances composed of gastric glands, which is again succeeded by a membranous or saccular portion, on the interior surface of which are numerous and nearly contiguous, longitudinal bands or ridges, of a cartilaginous structure, serrated or spiny on the surface towards the stomach, covering the pyloric or lowermost two-thirds of the stomach. This cartilaginous production, like the inner lining of the gizzard of the fowl, is easily detached. It must have considerable effect in facilitating the process of digestion, by tearing and separating the fibres of the meat with which these birds habitually gorge themselves, so as to be disabled, for a time, for flight. The liver is very large; the gall bladder was much distended with bile.